Liberty and powers to Gorkhaland

5550. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to News-item captioned "Paharke Prithak Rajyer Mato Swadhinata" (Liberty and powers like State to Hills) published in the "Pratidin" dated 24th April, 2000;

(b) whether Government's attention has also been drawn to the second editorial of the "Statesman' dated 26th April, 2000 under heading ""Gifts to Ghising: But are there no limits"; and

(c) if so, the reactions of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOMEAFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Central Government is keeping a close watch over the developments.

Amount spent on security of ex-Prime Ministers

5551. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister ofHOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how much in the terms of financial expense and the use of manpower is being spent on the security of all ex-Prime Ministers and their relatives;

(b) whether Government will provide the details of expenses on the security of Congress President and Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha and her children;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the security of ex-Prime Ministers are reviewed occasionally and accordingly their arrangements are amended; and

(e) if so, the latest threat perception on the different ex-Prime Ministers and their security arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOMEAFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The expenditure incurred/ manpower deployed on the security of former Prime Ministers and their family members cannot be precisely determined, as there are various wings in the SPG, looking after different aspects of security, which are common for all protectees.